

Message Text

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44

ACTION AF-06

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 EB-07 L-03 ERDA-05 AID-05 CEA-01

CIAE-00 CIEP-01 COME-00 DODE-00 FEAE-00 FPC-01 H-02

INR-07 INT-05 NSAE-00 NSC-05 OMB-01 PM-03 USIA-06

SAM-01 OES-03 SP-02 SS-15 STR-04 TRSE-00 FRB-03 PA-01

PRS-01 OPIC-03 /092 W

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R 191032Z JUN 75

FM AMEMBASSY BANGUI

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 5851

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E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: ENIV, ETOR, CT

SUBJECT: EXPROPRIATION OF MOBIL AND TEXACO INTEREST IN CAR

REF: STATE 127797

1. PAUL BELLET, WHO WAS FORMER TEXACO EMPLOYEE AND THIRD SUCCESSIVE DIRECTOR OF CENTRA-HYDRO APPOINTED IN MAY, INFORMED EMBASSY ECONOMIC OFFICER OF PROGRESS IN COMPENSATION ISSUE WITH MOBIL AND TEXACO. HE STATED CENTRA-HYDRO'S TASK WAS TO WORK WITH COMPANIES IN ORDER TO DEFINE AND SUBSTANTIATE CLAIMS. CLAIMS WOULD THEN BE SUBMITTED TO GOCAR FOR FURTHER ACTION. HE ACKNOWLEDGED RECEIPT OF MOBIL AND TEXACO CLAIMS. BELLET HAS RECENTLY ASKED SEVERAL OIL COMPANIES FOR MORE INFORMATION TO SUBSTANTIATE THEIR CLAIMS. HE WAS NOT ABLE TO REMEMBER OFFHAND IF MOBIL AND TEXACO IN THIS GROUP.

2. BELLET COMMENTED THAT CENTRA-HYDRO MUST REMAIN ON GOOD TERMS WITH OIL COMPANIES AS THE CAR RELIES ON THEM FOR PETROLEUM PRODUCTS SUCH AS GREASE AND MOTOR OIL. HE PARTICULARLY MENTIONED MOBIL IN THIS CONNECTION. HE CONSIDERS THE COMPENSATION ISSUE ONE OF HIS TOP PRIORITIES AND WISHES TO BRING IT TO AN AMICABLE CONCLUSION.

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3. IN A SEPARATE ACTION THE EMBASSY SENT A DIPLOMATIC NOTE ON TO MIN FONAFF FOLLOWING UP OUR PREVIOUS EFFORTS RE COMPENSATION. IT REVIEWED NATIONALIZATION AND COMPENSATION ISSUE TO DATE AND REQUESTED STATUS OF COMPENSATION ARRANGEMENTS. WE DO NOT ANTICIPATE AN EARLY REPLY.

4. COMMENT: BELLET SEEMS GENUINELY CONCERNED ABOUT THE COMPENSATION PROBLEMS AND IS WORKING WITHIN HIS MANDATE TO RESOLVE THEM. GIVEN THE STATE OF GOCAR FINANCES, IT IS DOUBTFUL IF THE GOVERNMENT SHARES BELLET'S CONCERN FOR PROMPT ACTION. IN ANY CASE WE CAN SAY DIALOGUE UNDERWAY WHICH WILL HOPEFULLY LEAD TO A SATISFACTORY RESOLUTION OF THE PROBLEM. DALE

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Message Attributes

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